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to the essay on *The Revolution of Greece* in a former volume of this collection. The remainder of the volume is composed of four tales of the same strongly-marked character with *Klosterheim* and *The Spanish Nun*, and showing scarcely less power. Great as is De Quincey's skill as an essayist, he is scarcely less remarkable as a writer of short imaginative sketches.

14. — *The Money King, and other Poems.* By JOHN G. SAXE. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1860. 16mo. pp. 182.

THE two principal poems in this collection were prepared for college festivals, one for the anniversary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Yale College, the other for the anniversary of the Literary Societies of Brown University. They have the characteristic merits and faults of the class of poems to which they belong. Their versification is smooth and easy, their humor is genial, and their satire is good-natured. If they unfold only simple and obvious truths, they enforce those truths by well-chosen illustrations, and their tone is always healthful. Unambitious in their plan and execution, they will compare favorably with a very large proportion of similar compositions. The remaining pieces are for the most part short poems and ballads, written since the publication of Mr. Saxe's previous volume, ten years ago. Like the longer poems, they belong to the department of humorous and satirical literature; and they are marked by the same general characteristics. There are, however, a few poems of a graver cast, which deserve special commendation, and show that Mr. Saxe is much more than a humorist and satirist.

15. — *Book of Raphael's Madonnas.* By JAMES P. WALKER. New York: Leavitt and Allen. 1860. 4to. pp. 104. Photographs 13.

PERHAPS no instrumentality has done so much toward the development of art in this country as the annual publication of elegantly bound and illustrated gift-books. True, the larger portion of these books are *annuals*, or less, as to their hold on the interest of the limited young-lady public, for whose benefit chiefly they have been issued. But they have a permanent historical value, as marking rapid stages of progress in the taste, skill, and enterprise enlisted in their preparation. The earliest books of this class were ludicrously coarse and mean; and yet we remember well the sincere, though brief, admiration with which at

the holiday season they were passed from hand to hand. Now some of the gift-books of each year are among the choicest *perennials*, works of high art, and such as can never seem less beautiful or be less precious than on the day of their issue. Such is pre-eminently the case with the volume now before us, which is undoubtedly the most beautiful and valuable book of the season. Perfect in all the accessories of paper, tint, type, and binding, on all which it is a luxury to look, it has over most works of its class the inestimable advantage of placing in the hands of its owners copies of world-famous pictures, instead of the ambitious doings and darings of mere novices in art. The process by which these illustrations have been obtained, gives them an added value. The editor selected from among the many Madonnas of Raphael those which are the most characteristic of his genius, and then, from the numerous engravings which profess to copy them, he chose those which display the most of the engraver's manual skill and the least of the audacity with which the inferior art sometimes tampers with the genius which it cannot improve. These engravings were not copied by hand, but reproduced in phototype, and the pictures in this volume are phototypes of unsurpassed delicacy, pasted on the richly-margined and tinted leaves prepared to receive them. The volume contains a brief and admirably written narrative of Raphael's Life, and historical sketches of each separate picture given in phototype. For these we are indebted to the graceful pen of the editor, who has interspersed his own text with several appropriate and tastefully chosen extracts in poetry and prose. We trust that a work proffering such strong claims upon the lovers of the beautiful, and the friends and patrons of art, will be so generously welcomed as to enable the editor, with the advent of another year, to fulfil the promise, conditionally given in his Preface, of another similar volume.

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- 16.—*Annals of the American Pulpit; or, Commemorative Notices of Distinguished American Clergymen of Various Denominations, from the Early Settlement of the Country to the Close of the Year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty-five. With Historical Introductions.* By WILLIAM B. SPRAGUE, D. D. Vol. VI. *Baptist.* New York: Robert Carter and Brothers. 1860. 8vo. pp. 860.

THE historical names among the American Baptist clergy resolve themselves into two widely distinct classes. In the first, we would reckon the pioneers of the denomination for the many years for which theirs was compelled to be a church militant, disfranchised in the